



BNC School Council Meeting - October 30, 2023 - Minutes

Welcome: Yvonne Stahlmann, *School Council Chair* and Kim Hand, *Principal*
Land Acknowledgement

Introductions: All in attendance (name, student at North, items you are interested in hearing about)

Presentation: Urban tree canopy by the Art Department - importance of the project, what does it mean to the students, and their connections to it and the land and our city. Hoping to make connections between what the canopy means and to citizenship within the community. How can art be a part of this? These works of art will be displayed in Barrie City Hall for the months of November and December. The group / students also made some colouring pages for the feeder schools and will be taking this project to the feeder schools for discussion and display with the students.

School updates: Kim Hand - provide updates on recent events and upcoming events at the school

School updates: Mid term reports are coming out late in November.

Teacher Representative: Minky Archibald

Teacher Rep updates: in the Learning Centre the North Stars Junior program (grades 9 / 10) are cleaning up the courtyards and preparing bagels for students facing food insecurity to access.

Co-op: Apprenticeship students have started and are working toward OSSD and Skilled Trades - there are 150 skilled trades in Ontario that are eligible for this apprenticeship program.

North had a teacher recognized for involvement in Civics - Ms. Penrose was awarded a provincial award.

Cope Dog Program is up and running in the portable now.

Debate club is up and running now, along with the Ecos club, who will be doing a coat drive in the coming months.

Student Representative: Student Council President



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Student Rep updates: Some upcoming events: semi formal in March; Spirit week this week (Hallowe'en week); there is now a digital suggestion box for students to provide feedback to SAC; in December we will be participating in K Cup again this year with donations going to Christmas Cheer, tickets will have to be purchased using school cash online only; Candy Cane grams will be done the last week of December; February SAC will be doing candy grams for Valentine's day; March will have a spirit week the week before March Break (usually); and in June there will be another K Cup and Colour Clash (North Fest) will run again due to the great reception that it received last year from all grades.

SAC was asked about other clubs that run in the school, and parents were informed that clubs do not need to go through SAC to run, SAC does not control this but they are happy to run posts for all clubs in the school.

Currently SAC is looking for an Athletic representative, but has not yet found one.

Special Guests (if any): none at this meeting

Special Guest updates:

Items for discussion:

- 1. Parent/Guardian/Teacher interview night:** Yvonne Stahlmann and others in attendance / wishing to comment
 - a. **More information required** - where to park, rooms where teachers would be situated (not always in their classrooms), virtual map(s) that could be accessed, who wasn't available that night, what to do if no time slots were left available or the teacher ran over and didn't see you, better signage (just a few things mentioned to me standing at the cafe entrance)
 - b. **How to better prepare Parents / Guardians for this event** -

- 2. Fundraising ideas - food program - food availability for students**
 - a. **Overview of concern / issue brought forward at last meeting** - **looking for potential fundraising ideas:** Kim Hand - no previous parents



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were at this month's meeting to present ideas that they had regarding fundraising events for this cause. Family Studies and other classes are helping with more spaces available for students to access food but the school is still looking to expand this further. There is a freezer available for use for frozen food storage. Grade 10 nutrition classes are creating extra food when they are making items, to provide to this cause. The school / teacher Wellness Committee is looking to further expand in this area of concern as well, as we all know, when students are hungry they are not learning. Do we do a drive regarding this concern? Approach local businesses? Are there any parents who have companies that can help with this? It was mentioned that Barrie Hill Farms may be able to provide some donations. There also used to be PC (President's Choice) grants available, we need to look into this again. Business fundraisers? The Barrie Fire Department will also help raise funds for this cause if they are approached about it. Hope to have some more ideas brought forward at the next meeting.

- 3. Pro-Grant Application:** Is it available this year? What would we like to use it for? (*purpose to bring parents / school community into the school / together for learning purposes*)
 - a. Things that have been done previously: magnets; sticky notes; presentations i.e. Online Safety for Students, psychologists or special interest speakers; partnering with other schools for special events / presentations;
 - b. How do we know what information / guidance parents/guardians need / want to know more about? Could we do an online survey?
 - c. Council thoughts / ideas: to be discussed at the next meeting.

Upcoming Events at the school:

- Remembrance Day (assembly?) - Yes
- Night of Excellence - November 9, 2023
- PA Day - November 17, 2023
- Picture Retakes - November 20, 2023
- Winter Break - December 25 to January 7 (return on Jan. 8)



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Any thoughts on items you would like brought to these meetings?

- Representatives from SHSM programs to discuss the programs so parents understand what is available, how they run, what benefit they provide to students.
- Someone from The Lodge, Grad Coaches, OYAP, Special Education - discuss support available
- Other projects such as the Urban Canopy project - to create parent awareness

Questions or concerns raised by Council meeting attendees:

Why is there no longer a Yearbook?

This is a course that is generally run through Comm Tech, and although it has been offered, there has been no student interest in this course over the past few years. Because of the work involved in this project, there has to be a dedicated teacher that wants to take it on, and it cannot be run as a club due to the amount of work involved from start to finish.

Reminder: **Spirit Wear** is available for ordering October 30 to November 16, with delivery December 18 - 20, 2023 then again from February 5 to 15 with delivery March 7 - 9, 2024. **All Spirit Wear is ordered online** - please check out the Barrie North Collegiate website under "*Our School*".

Upcoming School Council Meetings:

- **November 27, 2023**
- **January 29, 2024**
- **February 26, 2024**
- **March 25, 2024**
- **April 29, 2023**
- **May ? (none mentioned)**
- **June 3, 2024** (if there is time / interest / need)

Note: no meeting in December - this month is generally too busy and hectic for families.